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Tuesday, February 18, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

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Meryl Streep's untold biography

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Overcome Pinterest envy with this decor

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Grading the struggling Knicks at the break

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Greatest of ease. House of Yes, a well-known aerialists show, was recently priced out of their warehouse in East Williamsburg. **New home.** Anya Sapozhnikova and Kae Burke, the women behind the performance act, will soon open a bigger performance space in Bushwick. PAGE 02

JUST SAY 'YES'

Anya Sapozhnikova, of House of Yes, hoists Elena Delgado into the air during a performance. The circus-themed aerial and acrobatics act will soon have a new home in Bushwick. / MILES DIXON, METRO



—Sandra Carr,
MPA, Public Affairs & Administration, '08

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The Difference is Working.

Brooklyn aerialists find new home in Bushwick

Trapeze. Third time's the charm for House of Yes.

Anya Sapozhnikova and Kae Burke displayed no fear as they twisted through trapezes and rings 15 feet above the ground.

Their bodies were artfully contorted as they performed for a pre-Valentine Day audience at the Slipper Room in Manhattan.

Soon the duo will have a new home for their aerial and circus-themed acrobatics. Not unlike with their performances, neither are frightened about their latest venture.

Friends since high school, Sapozhnikova and Burke first took to the air in their early 20s. It wasn't until they began throwing parties in 2007 at their first warehouse that they launched their pet project, House of Yes.

They're now set to bring "House of Yes 3.0" to Bushwick, but not without incorporating the lessons learned by their previous attempts at operating a DIY performance venue.

The new space, located off the Jefferson Street L train stop, will take over what used to be a laundry warehouse. Come fall 2014, it will become the home of a bigger House of Yes, complete with a 30-foot-tall theater space with adjoining bar and restaurant.

"We have five years of experience of what works



Kae Burke, center, and Anya Sapozhnikova, right, will soon open a new House of Yes space. Burke, below, warms up a crowd before a pre-Valentine event at the Slipper Room. / MILES DIXON, METRO

and what doesn't," Sapozhnikova said.

The first House of Yes was short-lived. Doubling as the women's home, most of the shows were as raw as the space. Unfortunately, it burned in a 2008 fire.

With help from friends, they secured a new home in East Williamsburg.

The project received accolades and consistently sold out its shows.

Sapozhnikova lamented the loss of the second House of Yes, prompted by a rent hike that the duo couldn't afford. But Burke said that the third time's the charm for House of Yes.

"I'd say that they've all been charmed thus far," she said.

Part of that improvement is working with the neighbors in working-class Bushwick — and not just the art community. While most of the venue's shows are replete with corsets, fishnets and pasties, House of Yes hopes to offer more kid-friendly programming.

Most recently, the performers organized an aerial interpretation of "Horton Hears a Who!" by Dr. Seuss.

The amount of capital being put into the new House of Yes is unlike the earlier endeavors. They've been priced out of their neighborhood, survived a burning building and improvised along the way.

"The stakes are lower," Burke said with a laugh.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA
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Yes women

The attitude that gave them clout with fellow artists remains — even with business partners, a restaurant and bar.

- "We're still doing things ourselves," Sapozhnikova said. "But we've personally gotten older, we know how things are done. We know what makes money, what doesn't."



NYC to offer free extra-large condoms



The city plans to roll out a more inclusive strategy for its free condom distribution program, releasing a larger-sized option this summer.

The Department of Health unveiled its new extra-large Kyng Condom on Friday, as well as a new design for the average-sized condom wrapper.

In its announcement, the health department said the new size and

Giant-sized

"We anticipate that New Yorkers will love the new look and appreciate the new size option."

Mary Bassett
Health Commissioner

look came about after more than 600 events held over the last year.

The previous condom

design served the city well for the last five years. The NYC-branded condom program itself was launched on Valentine's Day 2007.

The health department said it distributes about 38 million free condoms every year at some 3,500 locations citywide, including hospitals, clinics, senior centers, barbershops, bars and clubs.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA

NEWS

Top 3

What's trending online at Metro.us

1 VIDEO: "The Lego Movie" blooper reel is just as funny as the film'

2 VIDEO: Jamaican bobsled team gets awesome theme song for Sochi Olympics'

3 VIDEO: Autistic boy gets surprise gift from trash collector'

Today's tweet

"At last! Looking forward to my fave, Jimmy Fallon, new star of The Tonight Show. Good luck Jimmy.... break a leg!"

@srdoss

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cbsnewyork.com

Long winter

More snow expected today

A fast-moving storm could blanket New York City with a few inches of snow Tuesday.

A low-pressure system from the west is expected to bring up to 4 inches of snow to the five boroughs beginning just in time for the morning commute, according



Don't put those snow umbrellas away yet. / GETTY IMAGES

See more at
www.metro.us

to the National Weather Service.

Flurries will begin after midnight, with heavier snow expected between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. It will change to rain in the late morning.

A snow alert was issued by the city's Department of Sanitation for 3 a.m. Tuesday.

This storm isn't expected to be as bad as

last week's nor'easter, which dropped roughly a foot of snow on the city Thursday.

"This is not a particularly strong one," said meteorologist Joey Picca with the weather service.

Still, this is already the third snowiest February on record at Central Park, according to the weather service.

ANNA SANDERS

Missing designer found dead in Hudson

Style. Michele Savoia disappeared after going to a night club with friends Thursday.



Michele Savoia / NYPD

The body of a missing fashion designer was pulled from the Hudson River on Sunday near the yacht he was living on, police said.

Michele Savoia, 55, was last seen at a Chelsea night club early Thursday morning, just a few blocks from where his boat was docked near 12th Avenue and 25th Street.

After celebrating New York Fashion Week with friends, Savoia was last seen leaving Marquee nightclub on 10th Avenue around 4 a.m. He was reported missing Saturday.

NYPD divers pulled Savoia's body from the water about 20 feet from his boat at Pier 59 around 1:20 p.m. Sunday.

Police suspect Savoia

may have slipped from a gangplank leading to his yacht, but his death remains under investigation.

Known as "Savoia the Tailor," his client list included Chris North, Robert De Niro and Mickey Rourke. He has also outfitted Broadway musicals.

His store, House of Savoia, is on Essex Street in the Lower East Side.

ANNA SANDERS

anna.sanders@metro.us

Timeline of events

Savoia, who has a shop in the Lower East Side, was last seen after going out with friends to celebrate New York Fashion Week.

- He lived on a yacht that was docked on the west side in the Chelsea area.

- The fashion designer's body was found in the water not far from his boat.

- Police think that he may have slipped from the gangplank while trying to get onto the boat.


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Poll: New York voters ready for medicinal weed

Majority. A full 88 percent of voters say that they support legalizing medical marijuana.

A new poll found New York voters overwhelmingly support the legalization of medical marijuana, with a slimmer majority in favor of legalization of recreational pot.

The statewide Quinnipiac University poll found that 88 percent of those asked would support legalizing medical marijuana in New York, with only 9 percent opposed.

Fifty-seven percent of respondents also support legal possession of marijuana in small amounts, edging out 31 percent who opposed such a measure.

Support for a law allowing smoking marijuana with a prescription is bipartisan: While 93 percent of registered Democrats favor it, so do 82 percent of Republican voters.

Where they split, however, is on recreational use. Sixty-five percent of Democrats and 39 percent of Republicans support it, while 32 percent of Democrats and 55 percent of Republicans oppose.

Even if most of them



New Yorkers also support legalizing pot for recreational use by a 57 percent majority. / GETTY IMAGES

Green machine

"Medical marijuana is a no-brainer for New York state voters, and they also would follow Colorado in legalizing marijuana for fun."

Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute

support reformed marijuana laws, less than half those polled admitted having smoked pot before.

"Medical marijuana is a no-brainer for New York state voters, and they also would follow Colorado in legalizing marijuana for

fun," wrote Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute, adding that a slim plurality — 41 percent — think legalization hurt Colorado's national reputation.

Across the country, 20 states and the District of Columbia allow some form of medical marijuana use. New York might join that list if Gov. Andrew Cuomo's own proposal passes through Albany.

The poll surveyed 1,488 New York state voters and has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.5 percentage points.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA
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In Brooklyn

Robbers steal laundromat cash register

Police are looking for a man and woman suspected of flashing a gun and robbing a Fort Greene laundromat on Feb. 4.

The suspects brandished a semi-automatic pistol and demanded money from an employee, who was then bound.

The suspects took a black cash register.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA

Job. Cuomo plan helps inmates earn degrees.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Sunday announced a new initiative to bring college classes to prisons and help reduce the chances of inmates ending up behind bars in the future.

The program would provide college level education in 10 prisons across the state and give inmates the chance to earn an associate's or bachelor's degree.

"Giving men and women in prison the opportunity to earn a



Cuomo / OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

college degree costs our state less and benefits our society more," Cuomo said. **LAURA SHIN**



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Birth. Number of test-tube babies born in US hits record high

More test-tube babies were born in the United States in 2012 than ever before, and they constituted a higher percentage of total births than at any time since the technology was introduced in the 1980s, according to a report released on Monday.

The annual report was from the Society for As-

sisted Reproductive Technology, an organization of medical professionals.

SART's 379 member clinics, which represent more than 90 percent of the infertility clinics in the country, reported that in 2012 they performed 165,172 procedures involving in vitro fertilization.

REUTERS

Streaming sounds

Spotify seeks to hire filings expert

Online music streaming service Spotify is recruiting a U.S. financial reporting specialist, adding to speculation that the Swedish start-up is preparing for a share listing, which one banker said could value the firm

at as much as \$8 billion.

Meeting U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission standards for filing financial disclosures is essential for any firm planning to go public, and bankers and lawyers said they inferred from the job ad that the company is getting ready for an initial public share offering, possibly next year. REUTERS

Romney expects Clinton to run on her own record



Hillary Clinton will make the bid about her own vision. / GETTY IMAGES

White House.

Romney said he does not see Bill being much of a factor in Hillary's possible bid.

Failed 2012 U.S. Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney said on Sunday he expects Hillary Clinton to win or lose the White House on her record, not that of her husband, former Democratic President Bill Clinton and his sexual indiscretions.

"Hillary, if she becomes the nominee, will have plenty to discuss about her own record," he said. That includes four years as U.S. secretary of state and twice being elected to the U.S. Senate from New York.

Republican Senator Rand Paul of Kentucky, a Tea Party favorite and po-

tential 2016 White House contender, recently began referring to Bill Clinton as a "sexual predator" for his extramarital affairs, including one with White House intern Monica Lewinski.

Paul has not said that Bill Clinton's past reflected on his wife's ability to run the country but has raised it as an issue to consider.

Romney said Bill Clinton's affair with Lewinski "embarrassed the country."

"But I don't think that is Hillary Clinton's to explain," Romney said. "She has her own record, her own vision to where she would take the country."

Romney said he will not run for the White House again. He also lost a bid to win his party's 2008 nomination to Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona.

REUTERS

Mount Sinai Beth Israel Celebrates American Heart Month

Don't Stress Your Test

Donna Lordi, CNMT

Wednesday, February 5, 2014 – First Avenue at 16th Street, 3 Linsky - Conference Room, 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

Go Red at Mount Sinai Beth Israel: Health Screenings and Counseling

Friday, February 7, 2014

First Avenue at 16th Street, 2 Dazian Rotunda, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

"Broken Heart Syndrome"

Maurice Rachko, MD

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 – First Avenue at 16th Street, 3 Linsky - Conference Room, 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

Sweetheart CPR: "Love Your Heart"

Thursday, February 13, 2014 – 10 Nathan D. Perlman Place Bernstein Pavilion, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

It's Electric: The Basics Electrophysiology

Preeti Chawla, MD

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

First Avenue at 16th Street, 3 Linsky - Conference Room, 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

Heart Healthy Day: Health Screenings and Counseling

Friday, February 21, 2014 – 10 Union Square East, 2nd Floor, Conference Rooms 1 & 2, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

African Americans and Heart Disease: What You Need to Know

David James, MD

Wednesday, February 26, 2014 – First Avenue at 16th Street, 3 Linsky - Conference Room, 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm

Heart Healthy Cooking and Ask the Expert

(Registration is required)

Dennis Finkelstein, MD

Friday, February 28, 2014 – 317 East 17th Street, 8th Floor Fierman Hall, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

For more information, please call **212-420-2806** or visit the Heart Institute's website: www.BIHeartInstitute.org



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The Ethiopian Airlines plane was seized by 31-year-old co-pilot who is of Ethiopian origin. / GETTY IMAGES

Co-pilot hijacks plane, exits cockpit by rope

Flight ET702. It departed from Addis Ababa on Sunday evening and was bound for Rome.

A co-pilot who hijacked an Ethiopian Airlines flight to seek asylum in Switzerland on Monday surren-

dered to police at Geneva airport after jumping out of a cockpit window and scrambling down an emergency rope.

The airliner's second-in-command, named by Ethiopia as Hailemedhin Abera Tegegn, 31, took control of the plane when the pilot left the cockpit to use the bathroom. He then sent a coded signal announcing he had hi-

jacked his own aircraft.

With the airliner on the tarmac, an unarmed Hailemedhin made his exit via a cockpit window, without harming passengers or crew, police spokesman Pierre Grangean told a news conference.

The airliner could later be seen with a knotted yellow rope dangling from an open cockpit window.

REUTERS

Kim Jong-un

UN: North Korea crimes evoke Nazi era

North Korean security chiefs and possibly even Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un himself should face international justice for ordering systematic torture, starvation and killings comparable to Nazi-era atrocities, U.N. investigators said on Monday.

The investigators told Kim in a letter they were advising the United Nations to refer North Korea to the International Criminal Court, to make sure any culprits "including possibly yourself" were held accountable.

The unprecedented public rebuke and warning to a head of state by a U.N. inquiry is likely to further antagonize Kim and complicate efforts to persuade him to rein in his isolated country's nuclear weapons program. REUTERS

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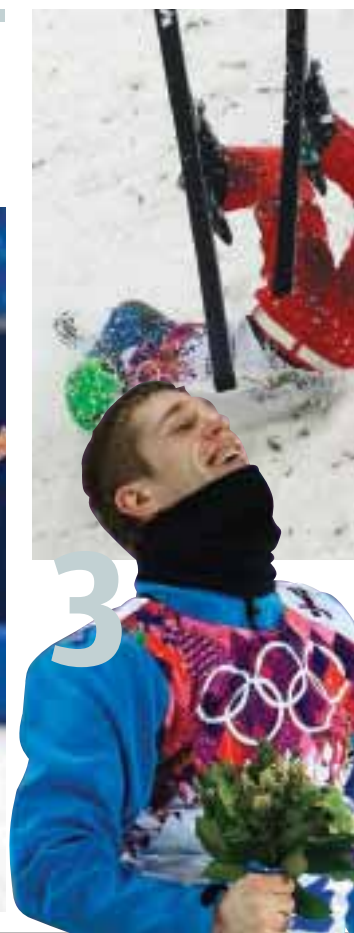
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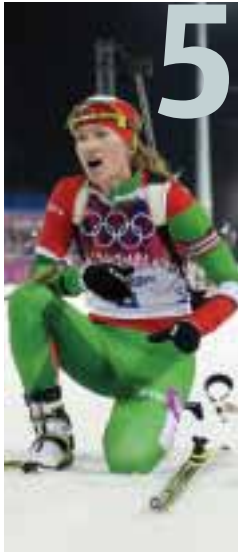


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4 The U.S. picked up its first-ever ice dancing gold thanks to a dominant performance by Michigan natives **Meryl Davis** and **Charlie White**. The pair had the lead ahead of defending gold medalists Canada Scott Moir and Tessa Virtue in the short dance, but extended it with a world record in Monday's free dance.

2 The U.S. two-man bobsled team made some history



of its own, with driver **Steven Holcomb** and **Steven Langton** taking a bronze for the country's first medal in the event in 62 years.

3 It was a bad day in men's aerials for China's **Wu Chao** but not for Belarusian **Anton Kushnir**, who landed a back-double full-full-double full (that's three backflips and five twists) to give his country a sweep in men's and women's aerials.

Medal count



	G	S	B	T
1. Russia	5	7	6	18
USA	5	4	9	18
3. Holland	5	5	7	17
4. Norway	5	3	7	15
Canada	4	7	4	15
6. Germany	8	3	2	13
7. Sweden	2	5	2	9
8. Switz.	5	2	1	8
Austria	2	5	1	8
10. Belarus	5	0	1	6

4 The U.S. men's hockey team has a ride into the quarterfinals, but the U.S. women are already through to a finals showdown with archrival Canada, thanks to **Megan Bozek's** goal, among others, in a 6-1 win over Sweden.

5 It was a great day for Belarus as **Darya Domracheva** won her third gold of the games in women's biathlon 12.5-kilometer mass start.

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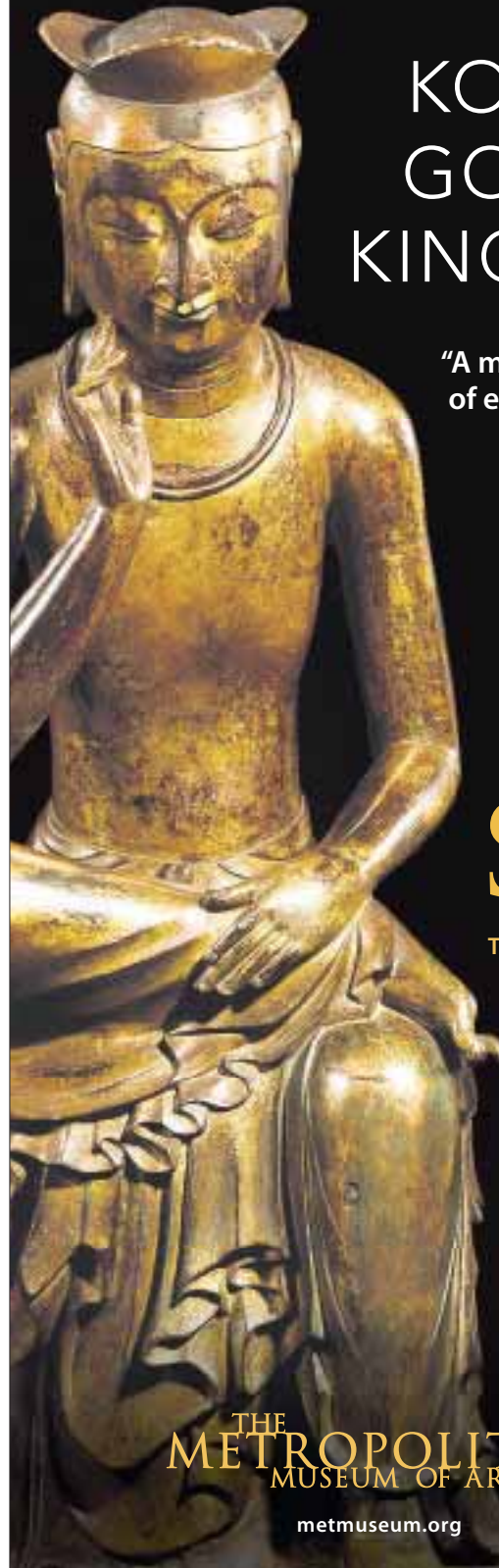
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It was organized by The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Museum of Korea, and Gyeongju National Museum, Korea.

Bodhisattva in pensive pose (detail), probably Maitreya (Korean: Mireuk), Silla kingdom, late 6th–early 7th century, gilt bronze, National Museum of Korea, National Treasure No. 83.

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How to get more back on your taxes

Money. Julius Green, a tax practice leader at ParenteBeard accounting firm gives tips on what to keep in mind when filing.

Doing your own taxes could mean missing out on hidden deductions. Julius Green, a tax practice leader at accounting firm ParenteBeard, gives tips on what to keep in mind when filing so you can get the most money back.

Energy credits

"You can get a credit for certain energy-efficient improvements in your home, which are listed," says Green. "If you have energy-efficient furnaces, solar panels or water heaters, you can get a credit." Unfortunately, taking public transportation to work doesn't count as helping the environment as far as your taxes are concerned.

Volunteering

"People are usually aware of their charitable contributions and remember to deduct those, but they often don't know that any money you spent while volunteering is

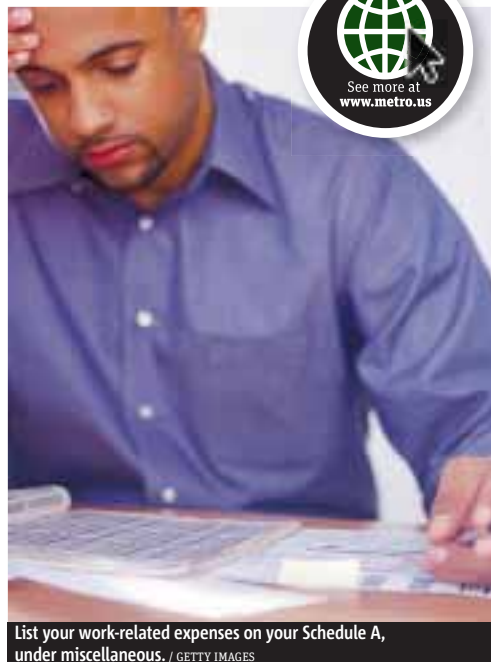
deductible, too," says Green. "If you use your own personal vehicle driving around doing things for the charity, you can deduct the mileage at 14 cents a mile."

Teaching deductions

If you're a teacher and spent any of your own money on classroom decorations, supplies or other school-related expenses, Green says they are deductible up to \$250.

College costs

"If the interest on your



List your work-related expenses on your Schedule A, under miscellaneous. / GETTY IMAGES

student loans went up, you are able to deduct that, based on your income," says Green.

Medical-related expenses

"On your Schedule A,

there's a section for medical-related expenses, which you can deduct as long as you are over a certain threshold," explains Green. If you don't have insurance or underwent an expensive medical treatment, you don't want to miss out on this.

Need to know

Work-related expenses

"If you had a job-related move, you can certainly deduct moving expenses," Green says. Besides moving, any other expenses related to your job that you weren't reimbursed for are deductible too. "For example, let's say you bought a computer. If you are able to reasonably argue that you use your computer 50 percent for personal use and 50 percent for work-related reasons, then you can deduct 50 percent of the cost of your computer," he says.

The same applies to your phone bill. Green says to take a monthly bill typical of your year-round usage and highlight the work-related expenses. If your job requires tools that you bought and weren't reimbursed for, you can list those as well.



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Young money. New campaign texts finance tips to teens

With only 13 states requiring a personal finance class as part of the high school curriculum, it's no wonder clueless teens are turning into clueless adults when it comes to money. Do Something is looking to change that, targeting young people ages 13 to 25.

"Three out of four teens feel they don't know enough about personal finance, and the average college student graduates with over \$29,000 in debt," says Farah Sheikh, the education specialist at Do Something.

To connect with young adults, Do Something partnered with H&R Block to develop its "Would

You Rather?" campaign, played through text messaging. To play, teens get texted questions such as "Would you rather do the Dallas Cowboys' laundry for a week or be Lindsay Lohan's assistant?" or "Would you rather have to walk to school every day or have your mom drop you off and give you a big

kiss in front of everyone every day?" After about three or four questions, they are texted a personal finance tip that directly relates to the questions they answered, such as how much money they would save on public transportation a month if they started biking to school.

Users can also play with their friends by entering their friends' phone numbers on Do Something's website.

"The tips are all relevant to their lives now," Sheikh says. "We're not talking about 50 years from now; we're talking about things that are affecting their lives currently."

Reaching young people through their preferred method of communication and educating them in a way that isn't boring have made this campaign a success.

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For more information, head to www.dosomething.org/wyr.

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Get an A+ on your taxes



Taxes may be something you can do yourself. / COLOURBOX

Paperwork. That 800-page doorstop of a textbook seemed tough until you did your taxes.

In theory, a college student's tax return shouldn't be too difficult to file. Chances are many students aren't making enough money to require filing — or if they do, the return is pretty simple. But what if you're a college student and you're overlooking something?

There might be items you can claim to increase your return, or you may be overlooking payment you need to file with the IRS. We spoke to a few experts to garner sound advice for college students filing their taxes. Remember that April 15 is coming no matter how much you try to avoid it.

"Just because you don't

have to pay taxes for another [few] months doesn't mean that the dreaded day will not come," explains Jonathan Barsade, CEO of the sales tax record keeping and compliance company, Exactor. Barsade is also a former tax attorney at Akin Gump, an international law firm. "Ben Franklin forewarned us of the certainty of taxes. Don't wait until it comes to bite. With some basic preparation, you can avoid the unpleasantness associated with late filings,

under-reporting and underpaying."

Ken Yoder is a tax manager at accounting firm ParenteBeard. He reminds us there are areas of income students overlook.

"It's important to remember any savings accounts or stocks they might have," says Yoder. "Most likely they could be getting interest from their savings and dividends from stocks." Yoder also tells us to make sure someone is claiming the tuition credit. "Parents usually

take the tuition deduction, but just make sure that someone — student or parent — takes it. [The credit] is a nice help nowadays."

Yoder also says there are different ways to file your taxes, but for most college students it shouldn't require a professional.

"There are free ways to file a simple return," says Yoder. "IRS.gov has options, as well as most software vendors, like Turbo Tax. Once you get into whether or not to go to an H&R Block or something like that is when it gets more complicated — if you're selling a lot of stock, for instance, or if you're fortunate enough to be a beneficiary of a trust."

But if you're looking at a basic W2 form, filing shouldn't be too tough. We never said it'd be fun, though.

JULIA WEST
letters@metro.us

Making things easy

Filing online

"In many instances, college students are doing their taxes for the first time on their own," says Mark Grace, VP, Global Consumer, Asia Pacific and Latin America of Absolute Software. "Making taxes even

more efficient, some of the solutions now allow for easy mobile uploads of important documents. However, this is where students must take extra precaution: It is important for students to know early on in their adult life the risks associated with financial data."

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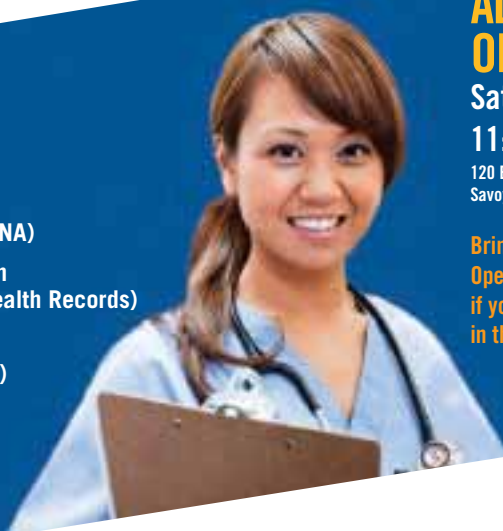
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Study notes

Channeling Sasha Fierce

"Politicizing Beyonce" is among the newest courses offered by the department of women's and gender studies at Rutgers University. Its teacher, Kevin Allred, told Rutgers Today, "This isn't a course about Beyonce's political engagement or how many times she performed during President Obama's inauguration weekend."

It does, however, focus on how she pushes boundaries. Students will contrast her videos and lyrics with work from the Black Feminist movement and discuss whether her scantily clad performances are empowering or stereotypical. Not to be outdone by his wife, Jay Z has his own class, too. Georgetown University teaches "The Sociology of Hip-Hop: The Urban Theodicy of Jay Z."

Got sodium?

You may want to think



Rutgers University offers a class called "Politicizing Beyonce." / GETTY IMAGES

sodium and 20 grams of saturated fat. Based on an entree, side dish and half portion of an appetizer, their findings reflected approximately 1,500 calories, 3,500 milligrams of sodium and 28 grams of saturated fat. Restaurants are advised to display nutritional values on menus.

Traffic stop study reveals discrimination

Experts from Northeastern University's Institute on Race and Justice discovered racial discrimination in almost 154,000 Rhode Island traffic stops made by 39 police officers in 2013.

Results showed minorities are more likely than whites to get pulled over. Researchers also compared drivers' races to the racial diversity of the town where they were stopped and revealed a lopsided rate.

VICKI SALEMI

again before dining out. Drexel University researchers examined nutritional values of menus in the Philadelphia region at chain restaurants such as Chili's, Applebee's and Denny's. They discovered an average meal was equivalent to an entire day's worth of saturated fat and sodium.

Most adults need to consume 2,000 calories per day and less than 2,300 milligrams of

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Welcoming everyone in

LGBT. Coed housing is one thing, but some schools are taking the extra step of providing gender-neutral living spaces.

Colleges across the nation are starting to provide the option of gender-neutral housing on campus. While coed housing is nothing new, this concept is different because it recognizes people who don't identify as their biological sex. While you may think that this is only happening at liberal arts schools, the truth is that it's becoming more and more common, and it's making for better campus living.

James Smith, associate director for residence life at the University of California, Riverside, says it was the students' idea



Some colleges have started allowing genders to mix in on-campus housing. / PHOTODISC

to have gender-neutral living spaces. "In 2004, members from housing and the LGBT resource center came together with a group of students to initiate gender-inclusive housing," he explains. By the fall of 2005, gender-inclusive housing was an

option for UCR students.

"The positive items that we have heard include things from a 'more inclusive community' to 'building a community of care and understanding,'" says Smith.

He admits that not many students have cho-

sen to participate, but that's not what matters. "We do not generally see huge numbers of people who request this community, but the goal is not to have numbers but to provide the community an option for those who wish to choose it."

One student at Goucher College — which has gender-neutral housing — points out the benefit of simplicity that comes with this living option. "It's more economical," says Katie Kirk, a sophomore at Goucher. "If there were an imbalance of gender, then there would be a possibility of empty rooms for one, and/or not having enough rooms for the other."

But Kirk sees benefits beyond filling rooms. "I believe that we're all equal and expected to act as adults," she says. "With that in mind, I believe it's important that we get to make our own decisions about where we live and who we live with, regardless of gender. By providing this housing option, I feel as if Goucher trusts our judgment and gives us the chance to act responsibly."

JULIA WEST
letters@metro.us

Housing

Gender-blind dorms at Marlboro College

Marlboro College in Vermont provides what it calls "gender-blind dorms." Because of the school's small size — about 250 students — Director of Housing Jodi Clark is able to work with students on a case-by-case basis.

"If a student expresses that they would like to live with someone of a differing gender identity than theirs, I work with that student and their potential roommate to ensure that it is going to be a good fit," explains Clark. "We currently have a roommate pair that was paired over the summer: one who is female-to-male transgendered, and one who identifies as gender queer, using the pronouns 'they,' 'them' and 'their.' They have been very satisfied with their placement."

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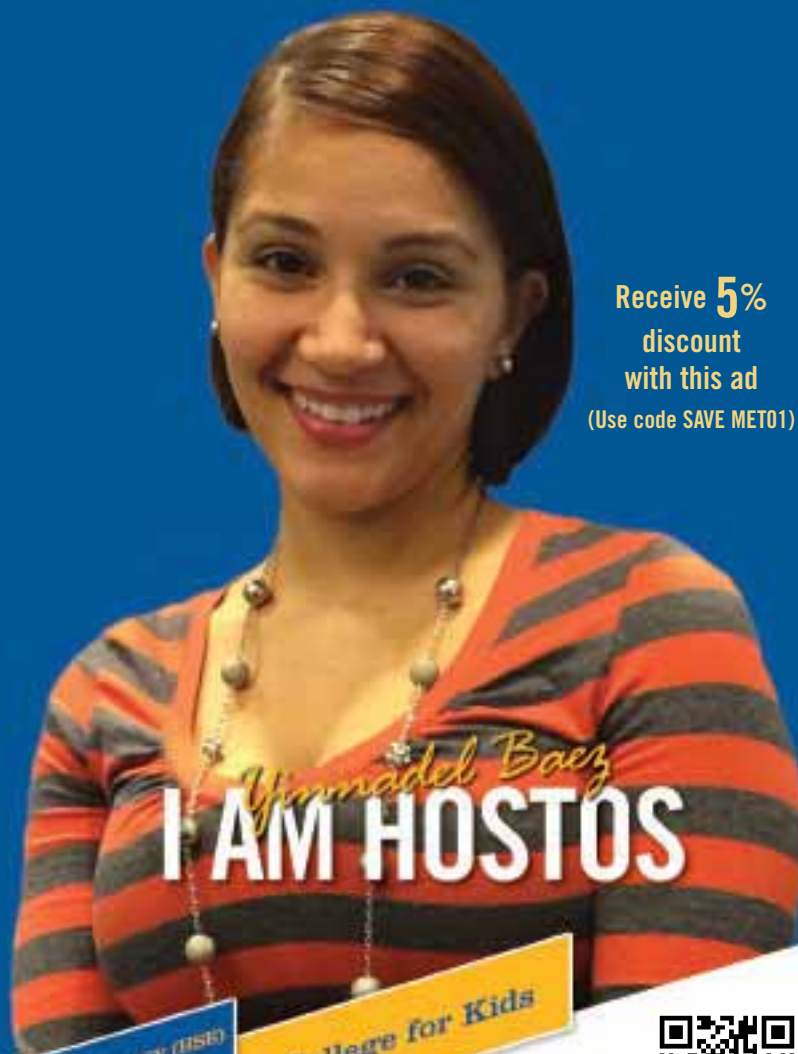
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What you missed at the BAFTAs

The BAFTAs, England's version of the Oscars (but with more class, because they are British), went off without a hitch on Sunday night in London at the Royal Opera House. Here's what happened:



CHIWETEL
EJIOFOR

• **Angelina Jolie** and **Brad Pitt** were the most photographed couple of the night when Jolie went Lady Sybil from "Downton Abbey" on everyone's ass by wearing — gasp! — pants. The tux, by Saint Laurent by Hedi Slimane, was expertly tailored, while Pitt wore an almost-matching one by Valentino. Pitt,

a producer on the film "12 Years a Slave," later jumped up onstage to accept the Best Film prize.

• "12 Years a Slave" had another big win — star **Chiwetel Ejiofor** took home an award for Best Actor. However, **Jennifer Law-**



Oprah with Fassbender and
Thompson. / INSTAGRAM

rence beat out the film's favorite, **Lupita Nyong'o**, for Best Supporting Actress. Lawrence wasn't there, so her director, **David O. Russell**, accepted it for her, thus making us miss out on a thousand morning-after Jennifer Lawrence face GIFs.

• **Cate Blanchett** dedicated her award for Best Actress to **Philip Seymour**



Tux be a lady, tonight! / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Hoffman in a short, yet heartfelt speech.

• What's the point of having an awards show in England if you can't get a royal there? **Prince William** was on hand to give the British Academy fellowship award to **Dame Helen Mirren**.

• **Oprah Winfrey** admitted she was sewn into her

Stella McCartney gown in an Instagram video posted shortly before the ceremony. Winfrey, who was nominated for her supporting actress role in "Lee Daniels' The Butler," later partied it up with **Michael Fassbender** and **Emma Thompson**, once again proving her life is eternally fabulous. **WITH**

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Uncovering Meryl Streep

Modesty. A new book by film critic Karina Longworth dives deep into the beloved actress's body of work.

The daily prose of film critic Karina Longworth tend to focus on the outsiders: tiny independent films and little-known cult figures. But her books tackle the titans. With "Meryl Streep: Anatomy of an Actor," Longworth takes an in-depth look at 10 titles from the legendary performer's career, from "The Deer Hunter" to "The Iron Lady." What emerges is a fresh look at someone whose career has been, in a sense, a long con: By playing modest, Streep has been able to survive and thrive.

Why Meryl Streep?

To be honest, I didn't want to write this book. I thought that everything that you could say about her had been said, that everything had been written and there was nothing for me to add. So I started doing just enough research to make an argument as to why I didn't want to do it. And in doing that I realized just how little had been written about her in terms of the whole arc of her career. I always thought of her as the mom of Hollywood. In writing the book, I realized how wrong I had been about her.

You talk about how she brings a feminist perspective to "The Deer



Karina Longworth is a film critic whose latest book is "Meryl Streep: Anatomy of an Actor." / RIAN JOHNSON

Hunter" and "Kramer Vs. Kramer," two films that aren't very feminist.

["Kramer Vs. Kramer"] is a movie that's banging the drum for "Reagan America." It feels so early '80s. It's part of a propaganda wave. [Her character] has one chance to tell her side of the story, which is the courtroom scene, and it's real powerful. I didn't know before I wrote the book that she had been asked to write that scene herself, because everybody was like, "We have no idea what a woman would think about in that situation." Robert Benton [the director] basically admitted his inability to take on a female perspective.

And that happens in "Out of Africa" as well.

One thing that came up a couple of times when I was doing this was guys like Benton and [director] Sydney Pollack saying, "I'm a feminist, I absolutely believe in rights for women,"

and then they would do things that would belie that claim. They would make movies that are incredibly paternalistic in their perspective. It's not like these guys are doing it because they're bad. They don't understand how belligerent their own perspective is. A lot of that is generational and cultural. Some of it is a lack of self-awareness.

You dig up a lot of quotes from her over her entire career, and she's unfailingly modest.

A lot of her public persona is "nothing to see here, I'm just a mom of five kids, there's nothing magical going on." It's a way for her to protect her business, and her aggression of knowing what she wants to be and how she's going to do it. And she swears a lot.



MATT PRIGGE
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Being versatile

Funny bones

One of the arcs in the book is how Streep went from very serious to capable of being funny.

There were magazine editorials with headlines like, "Will Meryl Streep ever lighten up?" There

was this sense in the Hollywood trades that she had been over-praised. She does "lighten up" in the late '80s and early '90s, when she made a series of comedies, like "She-Devil," "Heartburn," "Postcards From the Edge" and "Defending Your Life."

But almost all of those are incredibly acerbic about women's roles. "Death Becomes Her" is a satire about how ghoulish the film industry is when it comes to aging women. So she's lightening up but in a way that makes people incredibly uncomfortable.

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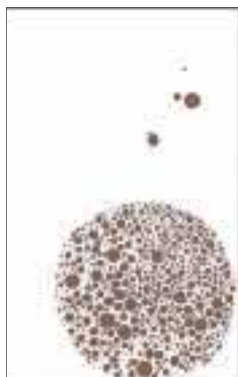
Poetry that will throw you for a loop



Playful prose.

"SuperLoop" poet Nicole Callihan gives us a sneak peek of her new book of poetry and her tips on crafting the perfect poem.

Poetry often gets a bad rep. Poems written by the greats, like Emily Dickinson and Edgar Allan Poe, are often deemed too depressing and somber. But lighthearted poetry about love or the beauty of a quiet snowfall are often



written off as too frilly and not profound enough.

It's rare that someone gets it right, but Nicole

Callihan has managed the feat in her new book "SuperLoop." Callihan's poetry juxtaposes the happy and the sad while exploring themes from her childhood.

Capturing the innocence of early life through a grown-up lens, she writes about sweet first kisses and hard realizations. The book's title poem is about a roller coaster, and Callihan is giving Metro readers the first look:

The SuperLoop

Port-a-potties sit dumb as ducks in a row



Release party: Feb. 20, 7 p.m. at Poets House. / HILLERY STONE

while I fly by
carnival-style-mad
on a three ticket ride
in the Texas sky.
I lose my sandals
on the swings,
give long eyes
to bumper car boys
for a free go around
'til I slam into
unexpectant mothers
who try to smile —
twelve toothed and weary
of no-name cigarettes.

This is the way
the Tilt-a-Whirl ends

not with a smile
but with a nice ass whisper.

And a flower-fisted girl
tells me *eatin' armadillos'll*
make ya vomit
while her dixie-flag-clad
brother gills my iced tea
and her arch-back daddy
says the *only things in life*
worth breathing over
are women, horses and rein-
carnation.



EMILY
LAURENCE
emily.laurence@metro.us

Poetry 101

Nicole Callihan's tips for crafting the perfect poem

Get in the right mind-set: "Take a walk. Drink something warm. Curse at winter. Nurse the hangover or the sick parent or the baby. Shuttle the kids off to school. Do whatever it takes to clear the mind."

On what mood you should be in: "For me, it's just the feeling that matters. As long as I'm actively feeling and not wandering around with my thumb on my iPhone and head in the clouds, I find I have access to poems."

On formatting and prose: "Listen to the breath; it rarely leads you astray. Let the lines fall where they may."

What a poem should accomplish: "Some poems are ding-dongs; some are foie gras. A poem should be exactly what it is. It should be and be and be."

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Box office. Legos beat android police officers during this long holiday weekend

Many critics said it was a bad idea — that to remake “RoboCop,” the ultra-violent 1987 Paul Verhoeven classic about an android police officer, was playing with fire. And it turns out they were right. The new, expensive remake failed to topple last week’s box office winner, “The Lego Movie,” from the top of the charts.

Over the four-day Presidents Day weekend, the toy toon fell only 8 percent from last weekend, adding another \$63.5 million to its haul. The film has now grossed \$143.8 million, with more to come.

“RoboCop” didn’t even score the second spot. That honor went to “About Last Night,” the raunchy remake of the raunchy 1986 rom-com. Based — very, very loosely — on David Mamet’s play “Sexual Perversity in Chicago,” it proved the second hit Kevin Hart has enjoyed in 2014, following the Ice Cube buddy cop comedy



Chris Pratt's plastic figure is really happy you're still seeing "The Lego Movie." / WARNER BROS. PICTURES

“Ride Along.” (That film ranked No. 6 for the weekend, adding \$10 million for a \$117.4 million total.)

Despite opening last Wednesday and thus having a two-day head start on the competition, the “RoboCop” remake netted only \$25.6 million. It’s the second Verhoeven remake, after “Total Recall” in 2012, to bomb. Perhaps execs should take note.

“Endless Love,” another

remake, this time of the 1981 Brooke Shields romance, bowed to \$15.1 million. That was almost double the other love-centered debut, “Winter’s Tale,” which adapted Mark Helprin’s 1983 novel. In the film, Colin Farrell plays an age-defying thief who courts a dying woman and talks to a flying horse.

Elsewhere on the charts, “The Monuments Men,” George Clooney’s

Top 5 earners	
1	‘The Lego Movie’ \$63.5 million
2	‘About Last Night’ \$28.5 million
3	‘RoboCop’ \$25.6 million
4	‘The Monuments Men’ \$18 million
5	‘Endless Love’ \$15.1 million

WWII romp about the pursuit to save Europe’s art from the Nazis, held in there, grossing another \$18 million. Starring Clooney, Matt Damon and Bill Murray, it has now made \$46.7 million. And after a whopping 13 weeks, people are still seeing Disney’s “Frozen.” The animated film wrangled \$8.7 million for a freakish \$378.2 million total.

MATT PRIGGE

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Also out

'Darkman'

Liam Neeson is now an action star in his 60s, as opposed to in his 30s when he was headlining — behind much makeup — Sam Raimi's giddy, 1990 twist on the superhero pic.



Complete Third Season

The books are more than 5,000 pages, but the show's only three seasons in. This set contains the delightful "Red Wedding" bloodbath — plus boobs.

'Afternoon Delight'

The great Kathryn Hahn gives a great performance in this dramedy about a housewife who finds herself housing a stripper (Juno Temple). Too bad it gets terrible in the back stretch, but Hahn remains a keeper.



DISC JOCKEY
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GIVE 'THE COUNSELOR' ANOTHER CHANCE



Javier Bardem (with funny hair) and Cameron Diaz (with leopard spot tattoos) star in the Cormac McCarthy movie "The Counselor." / KERRY BROWN

'The Counselor': Unrated Extended Cut

20th Century Fox \$39.95

Like his "Blade Runner" more than 30 years ago, Ridley Scott's latest, "The Counselor," was a bomb and critical whipping post that received a longer cut on home video. But the new one isn't that different. We still don't know what exactly befalls the titular lawyer (Michael Fassbender) and accomplices. It simply flows better.

What this new version really is, is a second chance for an unfairly hated bomb. Written by Cormac McCarthy, "The Counselor" is, to put it mildly, not for everyone,

especially because it's the purest distillation of the author's novels to film. "No Country for Old Men" reads like watching the Coen brothers' film. Here he uses endless, sometimes tangent-heavy dialogue to put you in the characters' shoes. Like Fassbender and company, you're distracted from what's really going on and underestimate how bad things will get.

This is McCarthy's reductio ad absurdum of the beliefs running through his work: that we think we can outsmart death, but can't. "The Counselor" won't gain many fans, but those who come around will lap it up as one of the darkest movies a major studio ever thought would be a big hit.

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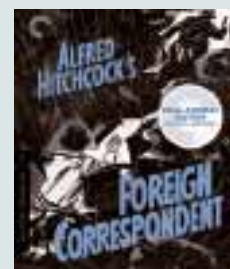


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Hitchcock presents

'Foreign Correspondent'

Alfred Hitchcock's first film in America was, for him, atypical: the serious Best Picture winner "Rebecca." His second was more his speed, with Joel McCrea's newspaper editor foiling an espionage plot in the early days of WWII.



Indie. Wild Cub singer Keegan DeWitt finds true love and his second wind with 'Youth'

Most people looking to start a band move to Brooklyn. Keegan DeWitt got the hell out.

The Wild Cub frontman spent eight years there, working as a successful composer for soundtracks.

"I kept looking around going, how in the f— are you guys paying for this?" he laughs. "Are we all on trust funds? Because I know I'm not. How are you doing this? Just hanging out and being in a band?"

So he moved to Nashville: "The music business is changing, and that's one of the places that it's maybe changing in a good way," he says. "There's a strong burden of proof, in terms of having to write songs that have content. That's one cool thing. You're getting people that are really experimenting with new ways of making music but, at the same time, understand what it means to tell a narrative."

These days, just hanging out and being in a band is



Wild Cub, with Keegan DeWitt, pictured, play a sold out show at the Bowery Ballroom tonight. / WILL MORGAN HOLLAND

his main job. In Nashville, he hooked up with multi-instrumentalist Jeremy Bullock to form Wild Cub, a synth-pop quintet whose debut, "Youth," marked by balmy beats and up-tempo percussion, dropped this year. At 31, DeWitt has developed a mature perspective, but he stresses that "Youth" isn't about nostal-

gia for what he's done, or what could've been: "You start to see all the people around you being shaped by ... either getting exactly what they wanted, or not getting what they thought they deserved or wanted in life. I was afraid that, through the refinement of growing up, you learn to either close yourself or open

Sowing Wild oats

Lost youth?

Does DeWitt regret missing out on the wild years of a young band? "I feel like the world sees such a brief utterance of my stuff, and then it gets pieced apart and reviewed. ... You want to be as nuanced and multifaceted as possible, and I'd be more glad if the world captured my 30-year-old self instead of my 20-year-old self — because I look back at pictures and shiver."

up, and that I was going to miss the one thing I was desiring, to meet someone to pair my life with. ... But there's a lot more celebration: 'Wow, somehow I navigated that.'"



ALEXANDRA CAVALLO

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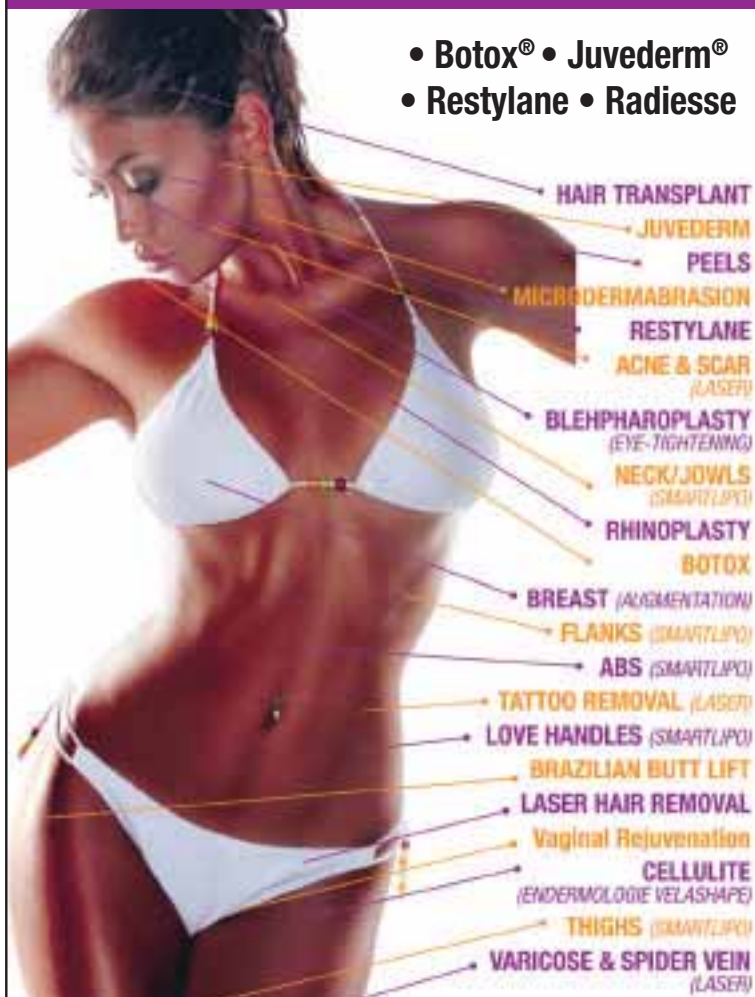
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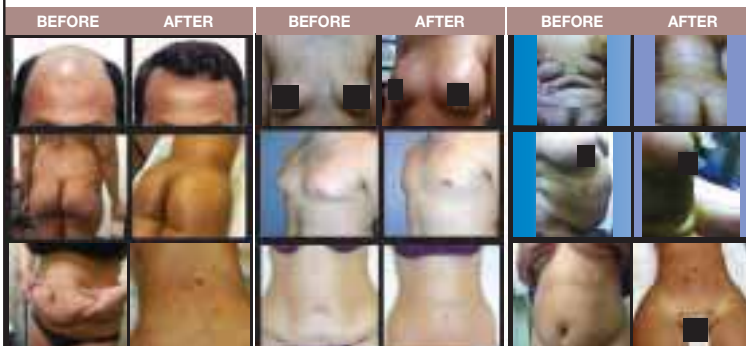
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TV watch list

Documentary

'American Experience: The Rise and Fall of Penn Station'

The latest episode of "American Experience" tells the story of New York's Penn Station. First opened to the public in 1910, Penn Station required 16 miles of underground tunnels and is considered one of the greatest engineering achievements of its time. **9 P.M., PBS**

"American Experience" traces the life of New York's Penn Station, whose destruction paved the way for Madison Square Garden and future landmarks.
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Sports

'The XXII Olympic Winter Games'

Women's alpine skiing, men's freestyle skiing, women's bobsled and women's short track are all featured in tonight's prime time Olympic coverage. Julia Mancuso, a 2006 gold medalist, and 18-year-old Mikaela Shiffrin give the U.S.

two contenders in the women's giant slalom.
8 P.M., NBC

Drama

'Pretty Little Liars'

Spencer's addiction creates doubt among her friends when she finally decides to tell them what she's discovered about Ezra. Should the girls trust what Spencer says?
8 P.M., ABC FAMILY

Reality

'American Idol'

With the Hollywood round over, the show's 13th competition kicks into high gear as the top 15 female vocalists take to the stage in hopes of making it through to the final round. How will your favorite hopeful perform?
8 P.M., FOX
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Destinations. Delve into Ecuador's art scene and colonial history against a scenic backdrop.

Ecuador is best known for the Galapagos Islands — but in addition to the tropical lifestyle of the coast, the Latin American country also offers beautiful mountain landscapes and urban settings, old and new. Ecuadorian airline Tame offers direct flights from JFK Airport to Guayaquil, the largest city in the country, and mountain city Quito is just an hour's flight away.

Quito

There are plenty of commercial, international hotel chains from which to choose in the nation's capital — but for a more romantic escape, stay in the cozy Hotel Plaza Grande, which offers gorgeous views of Old Town's Independence Square.

Quito's Old Town is a must-visit. Take a stroll through the narrow, hilly streets lined with Easter egg-colored buildings and stop into the San Francisco Museum and Convent, where you can see an array of 17th-century paintings and walk through a beautiful courtyard and garden. Browse preserved manuscripts and devotional paintings in this quiet space.

The Iglesia de la Compania de Jesus is one of Quito's most famous churches, and for good reason. The interior of the baroque church is covered in gold leaf and elaborate woodcarvings. The church is flooded with gilded patterns and portraits of saints; the level of detail is enough to make your



Natural beauty at Earth's center

The Endangered Wildlife Zone at Guayaquil's Parque Historico houses dozens of exotic species. / PARQUE HISTORICO



Independence Square is the hub of Quito's Old Town. / GETTY IMAGES

eyes hurt.

For an insightful look into the city's art scene, visit the Guayasamin Museum. The late artist Oswaldo Guayasamin is considered the Picasso of Quito, and his home is open to visitors next to the museum. Guayasamin

is the pride of Ecuador, and you'll see his paintings in the airports and copies in gift shops. His home offers a unique perspective into his revolutionary work as well as the classist landscape of the country during his early career.

The city offers more than just art and architecture, though. The views here are, with the high altitude, literally breathtaking. Drink lots of water, and talk to your doctor before you go about possibly taking altitude sickness medicine.

For kitschy fun, head to the Middle of the World park, where you can see shrunken heads, replicas of indigenous homes and walk right on the equator line. Your tour guides will challenge you to a few games on the equator: This is your chance to make an egg stand on its end.

Unwind in La Mariscal, the nightlife center of Quito. La Boca del Lobo is a fun restaurant that offers Ecuadorian food with a twist in a flashy atmosphere with disco balls and Warhol-esque Chairman Mao statuettes. You can try unique dishes like cuy (guinea pig) empanadas, but picky eaters don't need to worry: They offer steak and fries and other non-eccentric standbys. Get down on the restaurant's dance floor after dinner.



ANDREA PARK
andrea.park@metro.us



PLUS

Must-visit

Guayaquil

Spend a day in this colorful port city and stay at charming boutique hotel Oro Verde. Don't miss the Parque Historico, where you can see tropical animals ranging from bright macaws to furry sloths in the endangered wildlife zone. The rest of the park is similar to Colonial Williamsburg, where staffers walk around amid colonial homes and churches in traditional outfits from the early 1900s.

Parque Seminario, better known as the Iguana Park, is a bright plaza in the center of town heavily populated by — you guessed it — iguanas. For better or for worse, these iguanas have had their teeth removed, so biting isn't a concern. It's a fun spot to watch both people and reptiles.

Now renting on HomeAway.com. A South By Southwest crash pad

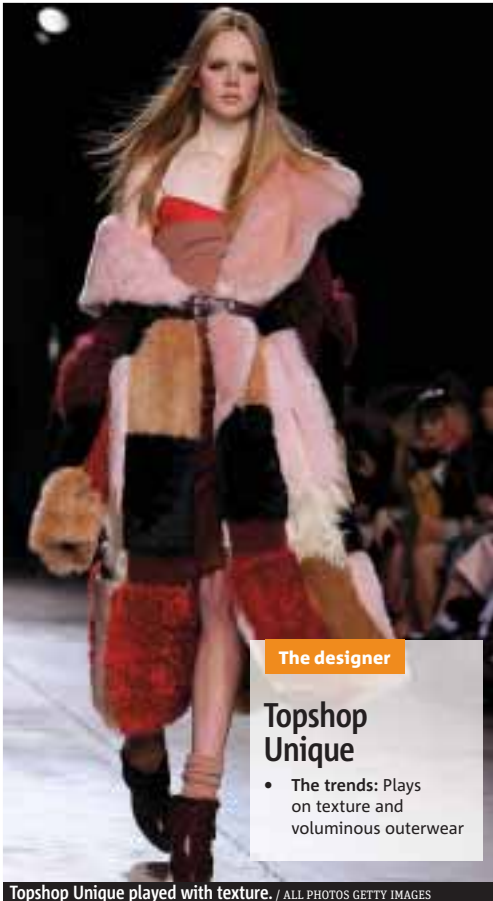
South By Southwest brings more than 150,000 visitors to the Austin area, and HomeAway is the perfect option for housing during the festival. Check out this stylish mid-century townhome located in Travis Heights, one of Austin's most desired and unique neighborhoods. Relax and enjoy the light-filled,

contemporary space that's just minutes from lively and hip South Congress Avenue, which holds Austin's best restaurants and all downtown festival venues. The home is beautifully appointed with custom walnut cabinetry, stained concrete floors, stainless appliances, ultra comfortable beds and

modern, cozy furnishings. It's owned by vacation rental expert Joel Rasmussen, author of "Vacation Rental Success."



After a long day of SXSW shows, you'll be glad to rest easy here. / PROVIDED



The designer

Topshop Unique

- The trends: Plays on texture and voluminous outerwear

Topshop Unique played with texture. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

London Fashion Week: Texturized

Fashion Week diary

Follow our editors' diaries as they take you to the front row of London Fashion Week. For more coverage, visit www.metro.us and www.modmods.com.

Sunday

2:54 p.m.

People seem flustered in a low-blood-sugar way at the Tate Modern where the Topshop Unique show is taking place, which is surprising considering how much food and Champagne is being served. Fashion Week lesson No. 1: Don't listen to what the Skinny Minnies say, always eat the food. And Kate Moss is here! How can that not make a fashion-lover smile? I also spy Kendall Jenner, who has interestingly been seated next to Anna Wintour.

3:13 p.m.

Like many of the shows we've seen this season, outerwear rules here. The belted, voluminous

blanket coats — which come in blue mohair or patchwork swatches of fur in rust, pink and red — are the clear winners in a highly sellable lineup of coats and jackets for every kind of girl. Sporty? Try the cropped puffer with dolman sleeves. A more polished 9-to-5 type? See the long, lean wool coats with contrasting fur panels in front. These are the looks we'll see real women wearing next September. But the tiny shorts and sheer embellished bodysuits? Not so much. And the bodysuits look derivative, mostly because Rodarte owned that idea last fall. It's with these weaker moments that an otherwise strong collection loses its way. **KENYA HUNT**

7:20 p.m.

This is Matthew Williamson's first collection with new head of design Danielle Scutt, and the brand seems to have taken

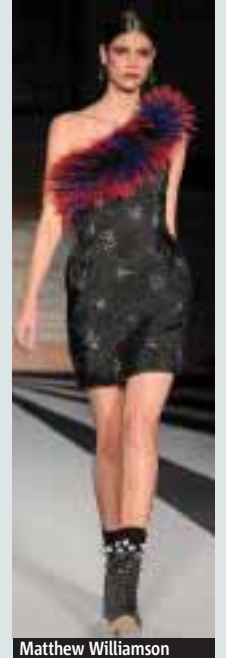
a fresh turn that's clear with the opening look: a duck-egg-blue double-breasted coat, worn with a red and white polka dot blouse and neon yellow lace-up boots. It's a more urban look than anything we've seen from the brand before. The following looks combine Williamson's trademarks (florals that pop, splashy embellishments and bold uses of color) with a new eccentric, pop art sensibility. The embroidered coats with patterns inspired by Turkish rugs feel much more traditionally Williamson, as do the long flowing patterned gowns and the fluffy cropped jackets. There's also plenty of celestial embellishment. The finale look — a sequined black and white gown with an optical illusion print — nails it. Now, which one of his glamorous front row gal pals — which today include Coco Rocha — will wear it first? **CHLOE MAC DONNELL**



The designer

Matthew Williamson

- The trends: Technicolor brights with a vaguely retro feel



Matthew Williamson

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USING YOUR PEOPLE SKILLS ON THE JOB

When I recruited for hiring managers and they gave the green light to extend a job offer to a candidate with a nearly identical résumé to other job seekers, out of curiosity I asked, "Why did you select this candidate over the others?" It was always based on liking one candidate the most or having a personal connection to someone who referred them. It boils down to landing the most likes. Here are two ways to rise above the pack:

Breathe

Take three deep breaths for five seconds to clear your mind and get centered before you open the



Remember, every interaction you have is an opportunity to shine.

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front door of a potential employer's office. This sets the tone for the interview; It says you're in the zone. Don't think about potential interview questions and answers. Focus on deep breaths instead. This

Inside HR

VICKI SALEMI

Vicki Salemi is a career and human resources expert and consultant with 16-plus years of hands-on management experience. She's a public speaker, coach, the author of "Big Career in the Big City" and on-air host of "Score That Job."



Chit chat

Connect with interviewers

Hiring managers aren't only looking for solid credentials: They're seeking the right fit within their group dynamics, someone to roll up their sleeves with during an intense monthly deadline, someone to grab a beer with after cranking out that report. Establishing a connection is key to standing out. Research interviewers' profiles on LinkedIn prior to the interview. Do you have a connection or anything else in common?

can give you a significant edge. Countless candidates may arrive flustered due to the weather, their commute, anything — they don't take time to get grounded by mentally freshening up.

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MABSTOA BUS MAINTAINER CHASSIS

EXAM NO.: 4103 APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 15, 2014 APPLICATION FEE: (Non-Refundable) \$68.00
TEST DATE: (subject to change) Saturday, June 28, 2014

JOB DESCRIPTION: Maintain, inspect, test, diagnose, overhaul, rebuild and repair all vehicle systems, components and accessories to industry work standards.

SALARY: \$29.3700/hr for a 40-hr week increasing to \$31.8725 in the fourth year. These rates are subject to change.

NYCT BUS MAINTAINER-GROUP A

EXAM NO.: 4605 APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 25, 2014 APPLICATION FEE: (Non-Refundable) \$68.00
TEST DATE: (subject to change): Wednesday, June 18, 2014

JOB DESCRIPTION: Repair and maintain the electrical, electronic, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic and air-conditioning equipment of NYC Transit's bus, truck, and other automotive vehicles.

SALARY: \$29.3700/hr for a 40-hr work week, increasing to \$31.8725 per hour in the fourth year. These rates are subject to change.

NYCT MAINTENANCE SUPERVISORS (SURFACE)

EXAM NO.: 4604 APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 25, 2014 APPLICATION FEE: (Non-Refundable) \$82.00
TEST DATE: (subject to change): Saturday, May 17, 2014

JOB DESCRIPTION: Supervise assigned Maintainers and Helpers performing maintenance, installation, inspection, testing, alteration and repair of buses and other automotive vehicles and related bus shop equipment; perform inspection work and research on new equipment; keep written and electronic records and make detailed written reports; operate buses for testing, evaluation or instructional purposes and perform related work.

SALARY: \$63,507 per annum increasing to \$78,561 per annum in the 38th month. These rates are subject to change.

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Car seat recalls total 3.7 million: Is your child's safe?

Parenting. Seat belt concerns have prompted a recall of Graco car seats. Read on to ensure you're buying a car seat that's safe.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced that Graco is recalling 11 out of its 18 car seat models. In one of the biggest recalls ever, roughly 3.7 million products are affected after new tests found that the seat belts may be unsafe.

If you purchased a Graco car seat between 2009 and July 2013, your best bet

it to replace it, especially if you tend to feed your toddler while in the car. Graco engineers found that food or liquid can make the buckle hard to unlatch. The company is offering to replace the buckle for free to those who purchased car seats during the time frame mentioned above by calling 800-345-4109.

When purchasing a car seat, check for a JMPA stamp on the box, which verifies that the product has been safe-tested and approved.

Look for straps that not only go around the baby's shoulders, but hips as well. This keeps them extra secure not only during a car accident, but also sharp turns and sudden

stops. It's also important to know when your child is outgrowing his or her car seat. Before purchasing, check the box for height and weight requirements. If your child's head is less than an inch below the top of the car seat, he or she has outgrown it.

Some child car seats have a base and a seat, and some only have a seat. If it has that JMPA stamp, it's safe, but recent crash tests have found that car seats without a base are safest.

To make sure you are securing it correctly in your vehicle, check out www.seatcheck.org.



EMILY LAURENCE

emily.laurence@metro.us

For more tips on car seat safety, head to www.seatcheck.org. / COLOURBOX

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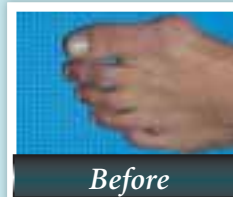
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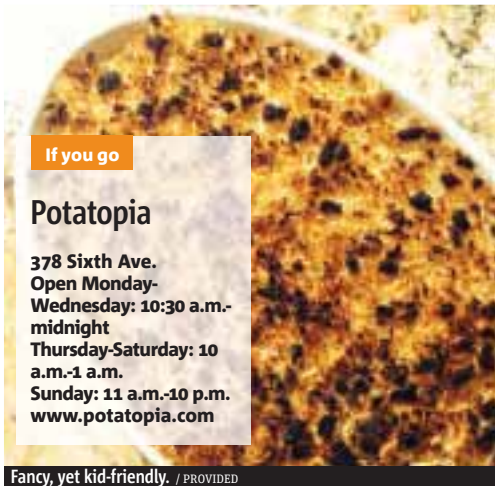


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Recipe. Layered Mashed Potato & Mushroom Casserole

For the breadcrumbs:

1 Cut up the baguette
and put through a food
processor.

2 Add the cheese until
thinly chopped.

For the mushrooms:

1 Mince the mushrooms,
fresh garlic and white
onion.

2 In a frying pan, drizzle
with oil and add the
onion, garlic salt and stir.
Let the mixture brown
about 5 minutes.

3 Add the chopped mush-
rooms and keep stirring
about 5 minutes.

4 Add the red cooking
wine and cook until the

mushrooms are reduced.
Taste, looking for no
remaining acidic flavor.

5 Add the cream, continu-
ing to stir until small
bubbles form, about 3
minutes.

6 Add the cheese and stir
until when you pull out
your spoon, the cheese
pulls a bit.

For the casserole:

1 Preheat oven to 400
degrees. In a 12-inch
oval baking dish, add an
even layer of the mashed
potatoes along the bottom.

2 Next, spread the mush-
room base. Continue
layering until both are
used.

Ingredients

For the breadcrumbs:

- ¼ piece of French
baguette
- 4 tablespoons of
shredded pecorino
Romano cheese

(cooking will tame the
alcohol)

- ¼ cup heavy or light
cream
- 2 cups shredded Gruyere
cheese

For the mushrooms:

- 20 oz. Bella mushrooms
- 1 cup white onion
- ¼ cup minced fresh garlic
- ¼ cup red cooking wine

For the mashed potatoes:

- 2 pounds baking
potatoes, peeled and
quartered
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons butter

3 Spread a thin even
layer of the breadcrumb
mixture on top.

4 Put casserole into oven
and bake for 7 minutes.

5 Turn oven to broil
setting and watch for
a quick browning, being

careful not to burn it.

6 Remove from oven and
sprinkle with fresh scal-
lions or chives. For a twist,
add bacon!



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DIY Project. Alphabet Block Rubbing

Time: 30 minutes

Difficulty: Easy

Craft: Spelling your kid's name or a favorite quote with a simple technique that anybody can master.

1 Arrange alphabet blocks face up to spell out the word or name.

2 Rotate extra blocks so the flat side is up and place them around the perimeter of the word.

3 Secure the blocks together with a rubber band.

4 Place vellum over the blocks. Put one hand on the blocks to secure the paper to the blocks. Use a colored pencil in the other hand to rub the raised surface of the blocks.

5 Repeat steps 1–4 as needed for additional words or names. Align the paper below the first line and rub with the nib of a



Use colored pencils, not crayons. / PROVIDED

Materials

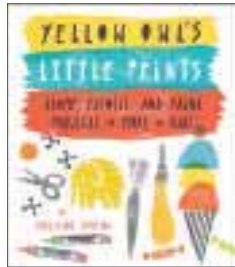
- Set of wood alphabet blocks
- Large rubber band, about 3.5 inches x ¼ inch (9 cm x 6 mm), or elastic tie
- 9 inch x 12 inch (23 cm x 30.5 cm) sheet of vellum
- Colored pencil

colored pencil.

For more ideas, visit www.yellowowlworkshop.com.

Kids crafts for the clueless

Get crafty. Learn how to make DIY nursery decor, personalized kids toys and more with Christine Schmidt's book, "Yellow Owl's Little Prints."



If you've developed some serious Pinterest envy over those ambitious parents who pin pictures of amazing homemade nursery and playroom decor, it's time to get in the game. Christine Schmidt's book, "Yellow Owl's Little Prints: Stamp, Stencil, and Print Projects to Make for Kids," has 25 ideas that even the least crafty parents can do. What makes her projects so easy are her simple step-by-step instructions and detailed illustrations showing what you need to be doing, so you know you're on the right (or



It only takes 30 minutes to make this adorable wall art. / PROVIDED

wrong) track.

From beautiful woodland mobiles and wall art to pillows, the crafts all use stamps and stencils that you can use to personalize the items with your child's name. Below is one idea from the book: personalized wall art created using alphabet block rubbing.

Alphabet block rubbing

Equal parts art class and spelling lesson, this easy and versatile project will earn an A+ in creative

learning. The best part is, you probably already have everything you need to get started. Spell out any name or message to create what you would like to write. Be sure to get traditional blocks with raised letters and flat sides. Although you could use any type of paper, transparent vellum is preferred. Its strength can take the rubbing, and the transparency allows you to see exactly where you should be pressing and easily align additional words.

Crayons work, but the concentrated color,

clearer impressions and lack of waxy residue make colored pencils the winner here. Ask the cashier from the grocer for a large rubber band, but if you are unable to get one, secure the sides of the blocks together with masking tape. Just don't use duct tape because it will leave a sticky mess. Hear the school bell ring? Well, pull out your pencil case because class is about to begin!



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Horoscope

♈ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18.
Demanding people are likely to get you down. Don't feel that you have to be everything to everyone.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Disagreements and confrontations will not resolve pending issues. Your reputation will be at risk if you argue about unimportant matters.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Avoid uncomfortable situations by using discretion. Giving too much attention to someone will not help you gain overall support.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Others will be impressed by your achievements if you stop procrastinating and start acting.

II Gemini | May 22-June 20
Get rid of tension by taking care of household chores or doing something physical. You will be much more relieved in a clean environment.

6 Cancer | June 21-July 22. Your social life may need a pick-me-up. Join a service, club or organization and meet new people. Sharing common interests will stimulate your sense.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.
It is never a good idea to flaunt your wealth around strangers. Be careful with your valuable possessions.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Keep your emotions in check. Disagreements may occur if you become stressed or unhappy. Commit to staying active.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Concentrate your attentions on your family and loved ones. Satisfying relationships require nurturing and effort. There will be opportunities to deal with career concerns.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. You will need to be more assertive in your efforts to move ahead in the workplace. Emphasize your special skills.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Be sensitive to the feelings of those you care about. Convey your thoughts with clarity and concern.

Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. Don't feel lethargic. Broaden your interests by learning something new. Your local library contains information on hundreds of topics. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Letters

Turn up the heat, Foreman

Re: 'Apocalypse snow'
(Metro, Feb. 14-17)

Columnist Tom Foreman must be frozen in a myopic East Coast cave. His piece bringing up questions about global warming due to the winter in the Midwest and eastern United States certainly misses the fact the West Coast is experiencing a record drought, Australia was on fire due to the hottest summer ever and Brazil was having terrible heat waves. I guess he doesn't watch sports either, as he may have seen film of Olympians sunning in the 66-degree temperatures in Sochi where they're holding the WINTER Olympics. Add it all up, and the

world has actually been warmer this past year than any year prior. Even with the current cold start in North America, this year won't change the fact the world is overall a warmer place than it's been. Just because mega energy companies can hire fleets of fact-fudgers to question the veracity of a vast preponderance of science, doesn't mean he has to buy into it. Sadly, he's right, though, in that all the heat made by energy company flacks will effect any Congressional action to help us. It's too bad he had to pile on in a pique of cabin fever.

PHIL LINDSAY, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

2			5	7		8											2
	7		6			3		2	6	2		9	7				
	8	9								7	8		5	2	9		
5		6	4									3	6	7			9
	4	7				6	2				9				6		
					7	5		3	7			5	9	1			
						1	3				3	4	1		8	6	
9		2			1		5						3	8		2	1
		3		8	5			4	1								

How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword

Across

- 1 Become conscious
 5 Supersonic unit
 9 Estimate
 14 Leave out
 15 Jai —
 16 — —ski party
 17 No big deal
 19 River or wine
 20 Environmental prefix
 21 Bohr's study
 22 Crinkled fabric
 23 Bunch of flowers
 25 Stir up
 26 Chiang — —shek
 27 Harassed
 30 Yokum lad
 33 Teenaged
 34 Electron loser
 36 Pencil point
 37 Gaynor or Leigh
 38 Rug measurement
 39 Sparkle
 40 Glues together
 41 Twist violently
 42 Spice-rack item
 44 Felt boot
 45 Untold centuries
 46 Throb
 50 Bounce
 52 Pull dandelions
 53 Checkbook amt.
 54 Diva's accolade

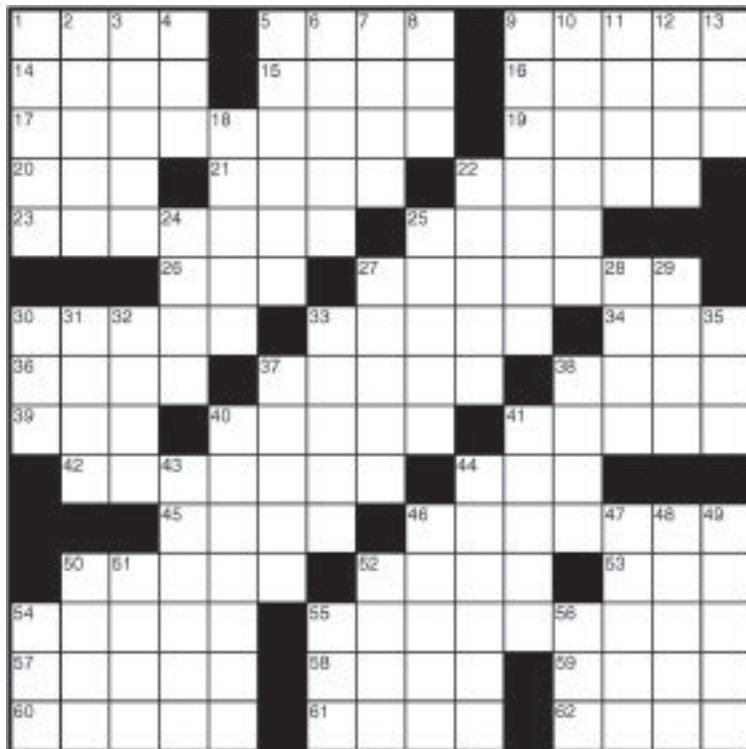
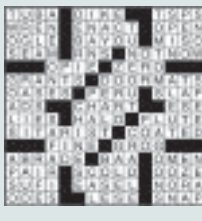
- 55 Small world, isn't it?
57 Dwelt
58 Latin 101 verb
59 Appealing
60 Rib
61 Gambling town
62 Livy's route

Down

- 1 Common door sign
- 2 BP acquired it
- 3 2.2-pound units
- 4 Summer in Nice
- 5 Fancy cocktail (2 wds.)
- 6 Brass or bronze
- 7 Quiet
- 8 Greetings
- 9 Discordant
- 10 Emulated Atlas
- 11 Stalactite starter
- 12 It may be spliced
- 13 Flight dir.
- 18 Snert's master
- 22 Make a difference
- 24 Just scraped by
- 25 Dissolute ones
- 27 GM competitor
- 28 Limerick locale
- 29 Female deer
- 30 Yodeler's perch
- 31 Sound of the tone
- 32 Vineyard valley

- 33 Pulls hard
35 Cager — Holman
37 Butcher's cut
38 Rainbow shapes
40 Rich fabric
41 Mr. Magoo's nephew
43 Vexes
44 — Rico
46 Thin-shelled nut
47 Give or take
48 Likes and dislikes
49 "— Gantry"
50 Buffalo's lake
51 Coffee or island
52 Hidden mike
54 Diner order
55 Debussy subject
56 201, to Ovid

Weekend's answer

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3

SPORTS

Cano's replacement

Roberts to start at second

The battle for second base didn't take long at Yankees camp. In fact, spring training hasn't even officially begun for position players, but manager Joe Girardi said Brian Roberts will be the starter at second in place of the departed Robinson Cano.

Knicks midseason

NBA. We grade the underachieving squad at the All-Star break. Get out the red pens; there's a lot of ink.

Type "bad" into a thesaurus and you'll have all the words you need to describe the 2013-14 Knicks. Actually, be sure to look up "lazy" and "disappointing" too.

The Knicks were supposed to improve on a 54-28 season and No. 2 seed one year ago with an even deeper postseason run — specifically getting some revenge against Indiana.

It's been anything but for a team struggling in 10th place in the Eastern Conference — behind mainstay embarrassments like the Wizards, Bobcats and Pistons. The

Pistons, two games up on the Knicks at the All-Star break, fired their head coach last week.

So far, Mike Woodson has been able to avoid that fate in New York — but for how long?

Woodson said before the All-Star break he expected to return when the second half tips off Tuesday night in Memphis.

The same may not be said for the roster. The trade deadline comes Thursday afternoon and there could be some shake-ups, if not a complete overhaul. Don't expect Carmelo Anthony to be dumped as part of a total rebuild, but Raymond Felton, Metta World Peace and even the always-on-block Iman Shumpert could be used to acquire pieces.



MARK OSBORNE
mark.osborne@metro.us

Carmelo Anthony

The only player living up to his part of the bargain this season is Carmelo Anthony. He's second in the league in scoring (27.3 points), but he's also on pace to be two rebounds above his career average and is right at his average of three assists. And after a slow start shooting, he's picking it up. But would you blame him for wanting to opt out at the end of the season?

Grade: B+



ANTHONY IS A FREE AGENT
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ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



Raymond Felton

The Knicks couldn't trade this bum fast enough — but no one needs a turnover-prone bench warmer. New York would love to add Kyle Lowry, but it's not looking promising.

Grade: D



Andrea Bargnani

It's hard to tell whether Knicks fans are at the "I told you so" or "he is what he is" stage with Bargnani. He's averaging 13.3 points, which is about what you'd expect. But it wasn't worth a first-round pick.

Grade: C



Iman Shumpert

Shumpert is perennially on the trade block despite being one the fans' favorite players. His shooting percentage has dipped to 38.2 percent, but he is rebounding, which is more than can be said for most.

Grade: C+



Tyson Chandler

His defense has been sliding for years — ever since winning the Defensive Player of the Year — and he missed a month with injuries. Why is he being paid \$14.1 million?

Grade: C-

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report card



J.R. Smith

Smith has dragged his shooting percentage up to 38.9, but is far from justifying his off-the-court diva persona. And his 13 points per game are a far cry from the 18 he scored last season as Sixth Man of the Year. **Grade: D**



Pablo Prigioni

Prigioni was out for a month with a broken toe, but made his way back earlier than scheduled. He's giving you almost the exact same thing he did last season (3.6 points, 3.4 assists). He's a reserve. That's all. **Grade: C+**



Tim Hardaway Jr.

When you draft arguably the Rookie of the Year (OK, maybe second to Michael Carter-Williams) at No. 24, you can't complain. Hardaway is already shaping up as the team's best pick since David Lee. **Grade: A-**



Amar'e Stoudemire

The Knicks' highest-paid player will never justify his max deal, but he's been capable this season — and mostly healthy. His 10.1 points and 4.5 rebounds per game in just 19.6 minutes is workable. **Grade: C**



Kenyon Martin

The Knicks got one year out of him. They shouldn't have expected anymore. When Martin hasn't been out with an assortment of injuries, he's been missing layups and being outplayed by larger pivots. **Grade: D**



Metta World Peace

The artist formerly known as Ron Artest returned to his hometown, but it's not going as planned. He's already saying he'd rather play somewhere else down the stretch. Go ahead. You won't be missed. **Grade: F**

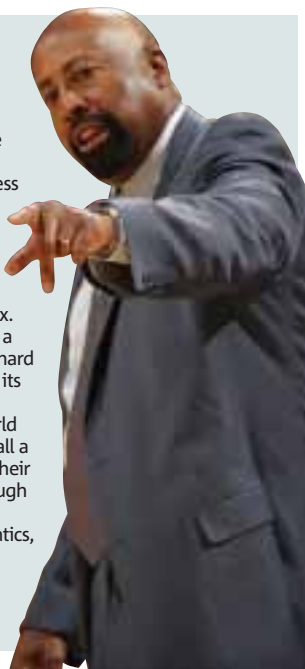


Steve Mills

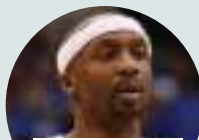
It's probably too soon to give Mills a true grade in his first half season as general manager for the Knicks. After all, it was thought to be Glen Grunwald's future job all offseason. But Mills hasn't gotten off to a good start if he's botched the Lowry deal, as appears to be the case. Then again, what assets does he have? **Grade: Incomplete**

Mike Woodson

If we took a poll of the Knicks fan base, we're going to get a grade less than F. Somehow, owner James Dolan has become the one with patience and the fans want to give someone the ax. Woodson hasn't done a good job, but it's also hard with a roster well past its expiration date. Stoudemire, Chandler, World Peace and Martin are all a waste at this point in their careers. And even though Woodson has taken a hard line on Smith's antics, it hasn't helped. He'll probably be gone in April regardless. **Grade: C-**



Nets dealing?



TERRY HAS PLAYED SPARINGLY FOR THE NETS.
GETTY IMAGES

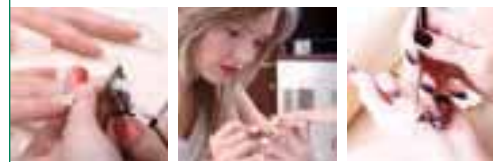
Report: Nets looking to deal Terry

Brooklyn has become a buyer with the NBA trade deadline on Thursday and the Nets are suddenly looking like a resurgent team.

Multiple reports indicate the team is pursuing guard Jarrett Jack from the Cavaliers in exchange for veteran point guard Jason Terry.

The 30-year-old Jack is averaging 8.9 points for the Cavs this season, but did score 12.9 last season with the Warriors. The problem is he still has three years and \$12 million left on his deal. **MARK OSBORNE**

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whom process may be
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LLC, c/o Discount Goods,
P.O. Box 1174, Bronx,
NY 10451. Purpose: any
lawful act or activity.

**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF
KAVITA WHOLISTIC LLC.**
Art. of Org. filed with the
Secy. of State of New
York(SSNY) on 03/16/2009.
office location: New York
County, SSNY designated
as agent of the LLC upon
whom process against it
may be served. SSNY shall
mail a copy of process to:
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for On-Premises Liquor has been
applied for by the undersigned
to sell Beer, Wine & Liquor at
retail in a Restaurant under the
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at 95-02 Roosevelt Ave. Jackson
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consumption. Chifflez Corp

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a license, Number 1275248
for Restaurant Wine has been
applied for by the undersigned
to sell Wine & Beer at retail in a
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Jerusalem Ave. Wantagh,
NY 11793 for on-premises
consumption. Mizuno Sushi Inc

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Control Law in a Cafe located at
1702 Stanhope St., Ridgewood,
NY 11385, for on-premise
consumption. Cypress Inn LLC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a License, Number 1276355
for Restaurant Wine has been
applied for by the undersigned
to sell Beer & Wine at retail in
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Law at: 8619 5th Ave. Brooklyn,
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Legal Notices

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that a license, Number Pending
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applied for by the undersigned
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